THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA):(a) and (b) The stock of foodgrains in the last three months is as under:—

(In lakh tonnes)

Date	Rice	Wheat	Total
1.9.2003	71.24	207.04	278.28
1.10.2003	52.41	184.27	236.68
1.11.2003	109	164.13	273.13

(c) The minimum buffer levels are decided after taking into account the requirement and Public Distribution System, Welfare Scheme and eventualities like drought. The present minimum buffer levels are as under:—

(In lakh tonnes)

Date	Rice	Wheat	Total
1st April	118.00	40.00	158.00
1st July	100.00	143.00	243.00
1st October	65.00	116.00	181.00
1st January	84.00	84.00	168.00

BIS specifications for electric bulbs

987. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether following the controversy about the soft drinks and bottled water following or not following ELL safety norms and presence of pesticides therein, another NGO, namely Consumer Education and Research Society has come up with a study revealing that most of the electric bulbs do not confirm the BIS specifications;

(b) if so, what are the BIS specifications laid down for bulbs in respect of longevity and life of a standard bulb, and how far each of the Indian bulb product falls short, of the standard; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD):(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Relevant Indian Standard for General Service Electric Lamp is IS 418:1978. According to life performance test requirement specified in this standard, the average life of an electric bulb shall not be less than 960 hours. So far, BIS has issued 176 licences to the manufacturers permitting them to use ISI mark. Out of 1028 samples drawn from factory as well as from the market in the last five years for testing by BIS in various laboratories all over India, 66 samples were found failing in life requirements.

(c) Bureau of Indian Standards, through its Scheme of Testing and Inspection and Surveillance Inspection tries to ensure that the product of its licencees adheres to the specifications laid down in the relevant Indian Standard. Whenever variations are observed in the quality of the proudct, corrective action is taken by the BIS in accordance with the provisions contained in the BIS Act and Rules framed thereunder *viz.* a warning letter is issued on receipt of any failure report of a sample. In case of consecutive failures, the right of the firm to use the Indian Standard Mark is suspended.

F.C.I. godowns in Andhra Pradesh

988. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the godowns indicating their maximum storing capacities under F.C.I. in Andhra Pradesh with locations thereof;

(b) the details of the godowns in the State under private parties, with locations thereof;

(c) the rules, regulations, responsibilities etc. pertaining to maintenance of these godowns by the private parties;

(d) the conditions and financial assistance, if any, under which the task of construction of godowns and their maintenance is handed over to private parties; and